

demonstrate continuous improvement in safety, based on criteria administered by the National Safety Council. Only 1 percent of U.S. slaughter plants receive this honor.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in congratulating Premium Standard Farms on 10 years of safe and productive operations at the Milan Processing Facility.

SUPPORTING TAIWAN'S EFFORT TO RETURN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, in seeking to return to the United Nations, the Republic of China on Taiwan will once again ask diplomatic allies to present its case before the United Nations this fall. I am in total sympathy with Taiwan's effort. Taiwan is the only nation not represented in the U.N. Taiwan's exclusion from the U.N. violates the principles and spirit of the U.N. Charter, especially the fundamental principle of universality and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

As we all know, the U.N. Charter demands that this global body welcome the participation of all people, including the 23 million people of Taiwan. Those who object to Taiwan's participation in the U.N. argue that U.N. Resolution 2758, adopted in 1971, makes the People's Republic of China the legitimate representative of Taiwan. The fact is that the PRC has never exercised jurisdiction over Taiwan. It is absurd to claim that the PRC can speak for a land and people over which it has no control. If the United Nations is founded on the principle of the equality of sovereign nations, it has no reason not to recognize Taiwan's sovereignty as an independent nation. It must and should give Taiwan representation.

Moreover, as we live in an era of the ascendancy of democracy and human rights, we must see that Taiwan has been a vibrant democracy with a democratically elected president and legislature. Taiwan's government upholds human rights. Its citizens enjoy freedom of assembly, association and religion. Free nations of the world cannot allow Taiwan, a beacon of democracy, to be subdued by an authoritarian China.

Besides being a multiparty democracy, Taiwan is an economic powerhouse, now ranking as the world's 14th largest economy. It has the potential to be a valuable party to ensure peace, security and progress in the Pacific region. Clearly it does not serve anyone's interest to keep Taiwan out of the United Nations. Also, as Asian-Pacific nations are confronted with problems of environmental degradation, greenhouse effects, depletion of marine and other resources, poverty and disease, Taiwan could play a significant role in grappling with some of these concerns if it were allowed to work with the United Nations and its agencies. No such opportunity awaits Taiwan today.

Mr. Speaker, I truly believe that Taiwan has been poorly treated by the United Nations. Taiwan has been a responsible global citizen for years. It has done a good job, for example, in helping to resettle refugees in Afghanistan, in preventing AIDS in Africa and in dispatching numerous technical and medical teams to de-

veloping countries in Latin America and Africa. U.N. should recognize and reward Taiwan's global outreach to needy countries.

Maybe the solution is parallel representation for both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China on the pattern of the previous East and West Germanys and the North and South Koreas. Such an arrangement would provide Taiwan and China with a forum for dialogue whereby they may forge closer ties based on mutual understanding and respect, leading to permanent peace in the Taiwan Strait.

For all the reasons named above, my colleagues and I urge the United Nations to consider Taiwan's bid to return to the U.N. with thought and wisdom.

HONORING THE JOFFREY BALLET OF CHICAGO

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago on more than 40 years of excellence and artistic achievement.

Since its foundation in 1956, the Joffrey Ballet has brought a unique and innovative approach to American dance theater. In addition to entertaining Chicago audiences for decades, the Joffrey exists as a touring company with a repertoire of original ballets and choreography that have been enjoyed by ballet fans worldwide.

Created by Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino, the Joffrey held its first major production at Chicago's 8th Street Theater on January 22, 1957. The performance proved to be a tremendous success, and helped establish the Joffrey as one of the best national companies of the day. In addition, the Joffrey has received international acclaim for its performances in 25 foreign countries, including Korea, Syria, and Afghanistan.

Renowned for a remarkable repertory of more than 225 ballets by 85 choreographers, The Joffrey commissioned the first ballets of such notable American choreographers as Alvin Ailey, Laura Dean, Anna Sokolow, and Chicagoan Randy Duncan. Furthermore, the company has revived many of the lost classics such as *Parade* from 1909, and *The Three-Cornered Hat* from 1919. In addition, The Joffrey has achieved great success by incorporating modern technology and pop culture into its productions to create ballets that are appealing to modern audiences.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of Chicago in congratulating The Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, one of Chicago's finest cultural institutions. From its brilliant original productions, to its extraordinary presentations of the classics, the company continues to perform ballet at the very highest of levels. I am happy to applaud their numerous achievements, and to wish them continued growth and future success.

HISPANIC ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. HINOJOSA. I rise today to commend the University of Texas Pan American on organizing the 3rd annual Hispanic Engineering Science and Technology Week (HESTEC), a national celebration, emphasizing the importance of math and science literacy by highlighting rewarding career paths in engineering, science, and technology.

The University of Texas Pan American is one of the premier Hispanic-Serving Institutions in the Nation not just because of the large number of Hispanic students that attend classes here but because of the university's longstanding and deeply rooted commitment to expanding access to education for our community. HESTEC is just one example of that commitment to our young people, our future.

We are in the midst of celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month—a time to celebrate Hispanic culture and the many contributions Hispanic Americans have made to this great Nation. The University of Texas Pan American, through the HESTEC initiative, has decided to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by looking to the future.

Love of country is a fundamental value in the Hispanic community. When the nation is in need, Hispanic Americans have always answered the call to serve. It is in this fine tradition that University of Texas Pan American founded HESTEC.

HESTEC is a call to serve. It is a call to our Hispanic youth to step in and fill the pressing national need for highly trained professionals in the fields of science, engineering, and technology.

Our Nation is facing a shortage of critical proportions in the fields of math, science, engineering and technology. Science and engineering employment opportunities are increasing three times faster than all other occupations. Yet, the number of college students entering the fields of math, science and engineering continues to decline, placing America's position as the world's leader in science and technology at risk. Increasingly, Hispanics will be called upon to reverse that trend. By the year 2010, Hispanics will represent 1 out of 4 students in U.S. schools, but today only 4 percent of U.S. scientists and engineers are Hispanic. This presents both a challenge and an opportunity for higher education institutions to attract more Hispanics entering the career fields of science and technology.

The University of Texas Pan American recognized that Hispanic Serving Institutions have a unique responsibility to meet this challenge and to increase the number of Hispanics in math, science, engineering and technology fields. Therefore, in October 2002, under the leadership and vision of Roland Arriola, vice president of external affairs, the university hosted the first Hispanic Engineering Science Technology Conference (HESTEC).

Since its inception, HESTEC has captured the imagination of South Texas and galvanized the community around the goal of preparing the next generation of mathematicians, scientists, engineers, and technology experts. This event has engaged our community on all